

**EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EL746146916US**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

**SCALABLE RESOURCE DISCOVERY AND RECONFIGURATION  
FOR DISTRIBUTED COMPUTER NETWORKS**

A method is provided for discovering resources in a network of user nodes. According to the  
5 method, a resource request to be published is received at a first user node of the network, and it is  
determined (e.g., randomly) whether or not to send the resource request to a server node. When it is  
determined not to send the resource request to the server node, the resource request is forwarded to a  
second user node of the network through a direct connection. When it is determined to send the resource  
request to the server node, the resource request is sent to the server node for publication. Also provided  
10 is a user node for use in a computer network of the type that includes user nodes and at least one server  
node, with each user node being connected to at least one other user node through a direct connection.

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